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(56) Documents cited

GB 0642351

GB 0422535

GB 0533814

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GB 0486154

EP A10024596

(58) Field of search

A4G

Selected US specifications from IPC sub-class A24F

(54) Pouch

(57) In a (roll-up) pouch, a transverse closing seam 20 can be pulled open (peel-seal seam). The closing seam 20 is formed in the region of a closing strip 22 folded round inwards. This is provided, at the ends or lateral edges, with recesses 23, 24 which allow permanent sealing in this region and which thus stabilize the closing seam at the ends.

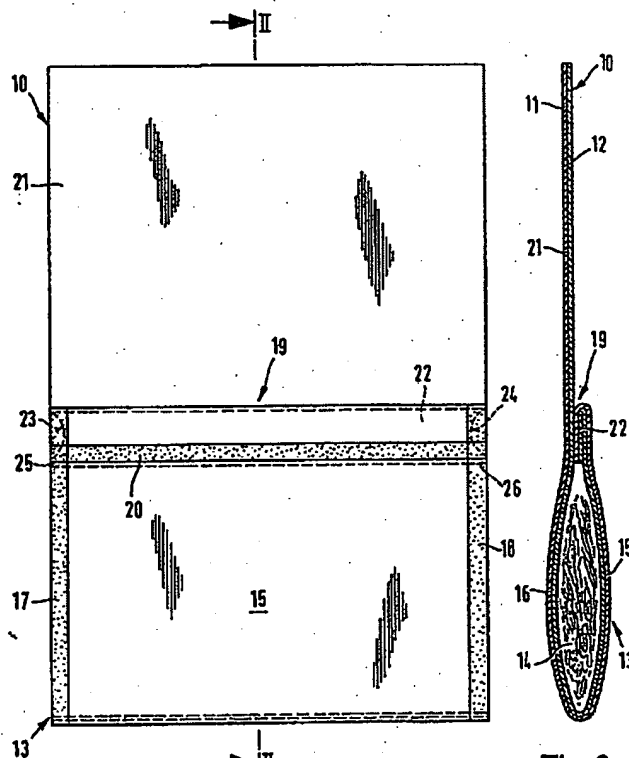


Fig. 1

Fig. 2

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## SPECIFICATION

## Pouch produced from a flexible sheet blank

5 The invention relates to a pouch produced from a flexible sheet blank, especially a roll-up pouch for receiving cut tobacco, with a pouch part which consists of a front wall and a rear wall and which is closed by means of a pull-open closing seam made by a seal

10 (peel-seal seam).

Cut tobacco is mainly packaged in pouches produced from a flexible sheet blank. Roll-up pouches, in which the tobacco is accommodated in a pouch part, are particularly widespread. This pouch part consists of a front wall and a rear wall which are joined together as a result of sealing in the region of side seams. An extraction orifice is closed by means of a closing seam, likewise made by sealing, between the front wall and the rear wall. The rear wall is conventionally equipped with an extension serving as a roll-up flap.

In order to open the pouch part, in this particular type of (roll-up) pouch the closing seam can be pulled open, in particular is designed as a peel-seal seam. This effect is achieved especially because the sheet consists of outer coatings differing from one another in terms of sealing behaviour. So that the different coatings rest against one another in the region of the orifice or the closing seam and can be joined together by means of a pull-open closing seam, a closing strip folded round inwards is formed on the edge of the front wall and rests with its outer coating against the inner coating of the rear wall. A roll-up pouch of this design is also illustrated and described in German Offenlegungsschrift 1,949,723 as regards the use of sealable materials which is under consideration here.

A disadvantage of this pouch with a peel-seal closing seam is that side seams of the pouch part do not ensure durable effective sealing at the ends of the pouch part in the region of the closing strip, since the peel-seal effect comes into play even here.

The object on which the invention is based is to develop further and improve a pouch (roll-up pouch) of the type mentioned in the introduction, in such a way that, in the region of the side seams of the pouch part, permanently durable welding or sealing is guaranteed continuously, that is to say even at the ends of the closing strip.

50 To achieve this object, the pouch according to the invention is characterized in that an end seal which cannot be pulled open and which is formed as a result of permanent sealing is made at the ends of the closing seam.

55 In the preferred embodiment of a pouch with a closing strip folded round inwards, according to the invention the latter is provided with a recess at the ends, at least in the region of the closing seam, in such a way that, in the region of the recess, identical coatings of the front wall and rear wall are sealed directly to one another.

60 Accordingly, the recess guarantees that the closing strip is "cut out" locally in this end region of the closing strip, particularly in the extension of the side seams, so that the inner coatings of the front wall

and rear wall of the sheet blank rest directly against one another and can be sealed permanently to one another as a result of their particular nature.

70 According to a further proposal of the invention, the recess is in the form of the area of a part circle and is open towards the free edges of the sheet blank.

An exemplary embodiment of the invention is explained in detail below with reference to the drawings. In these:

75 *Figure 1* shows a view of a (roll-up) pouch, with the roll-up flap opened,

*Figure 2* shows a cross-section through the roll-up pouch according to *Figure 1*,

80 *Figure 3* shows a blank for producing a roll-up pouch according to *Figures 1* and *2*, in the spread-out state,

*Figure 4* shows the blank according to *Figure 3* with the closing strip folded round.

85 The preferred embodiment of a (roll-up) pouch illustrated consists of a blank 10 formed from at least two layers, namely an outer coating 11 and an inner coating 12. These coatings 11 and 12 can consist of the same material as that described in German

90 Offenlegungsschrift 1,949,723 or have at least the same technological behaviour as regards sealability. However, the blank can have further inner layers, especially an inner aluminium layer which is provided with the coatings 11 and 12.

95 The pouch consists of a pouch part 13 for receiving the pouch content, namely a portion of cut tobacco 14. The pouch part is formed from a front wall 15 and a rear wall 16 which, when a one-piece blank 10 is used, merge into one another. Laterally, the front wall 15 and the rear wall 16 are joined to one another by means of side seams 17 and 18 extending in the longitudinal direction of the blank 10. These connections are extremely stable, since they are made by sealing the inner coatings 12 to one another.

100 Arranged in the region of a pouch orifice 19 is a transverse closing seam 20 which extends from one side edge to the adjacent side edge. To make a roll-up pouch, the rear wall 16 is equipped with an extension which forms a roll-up flap 21.

110 The closing seam 20 has special technological properties, in particular can be pulled open (a so-called peel-seal seam). In the present case, this effect is achieved because, at the free top edge of the front wall 15, a closing strip 22 of the blank 10 is folded round inwards against the inner face of the front wall 15. This closing strip 22 rests against the inner face of the rear wall 16 in the region of the pouch orifice 19. Accordingly, different coatings, namely the outer coating of the closing strip 22 and the inner coating of the rear wall 16, come to rest against one another here. Thus, the differing sealing behaviour results, in this region, in a closing seam 20 which allows the closing strip 22 to be detached from the rear wall 16 when the pouch part 13 is opened. In contrast, the connection between the closing strip 22 and the upper region of the front wall 15 is stable because the inner coatings rest against one another.

120 In a closing seam 20 designed in this way and arranged in the region of a closing strip 22, to fix its lateral ends in the region of the side seams 17, 18, the

closing strip 22 is provided at the ends, that is to say in the region of the side seams 17, 18, with recesses 23, 24 which allow the inner face of the front wall 15 to rest directly against the inner face of the rear wall 16 in this region. Accordingly, the inner coatings 12 to be sealed firmly to one another come directly up against one another here. Thus, as a result of the recesses 23, 24, the side seams 17, 18 which are continuous up to the top edge of the front wall 15 can ensure direct sealing of the front wall 15 and rear wall 16 to one another even in the region of the closing strip 22. A highly stable connection is therefore made in this region also, but nevertheless allows the pull-open closing seam 20 to be fully effective, without the possibility that the front wall 15 and rear wall 16 will be detached from one another in the edge regions.

The recesses 23, 24 are specially designed so that the lateral ends of the closing strip 22 are anchored between the front wall 15 and the rear wall 16 by means of the side seams 17 and 18. This means that the recesses 23, 24 do not take up the entire area of the side seams 17, 18 in the region of the closing strip 22, but, particularly at the top and bottom edges of the closing strip 22, leave regions in which the closing strip 22 remains connected to the front wall 15 and rear wall 16 by means of the side seams 17, 18. In the preferred exemplary embodiment, the recesses 23, 24 are in the form of the area of a part circle and are open towards the free side edges. The recesses 23, 24 are arranged at a distance from the free edge of the closing strip 22, so that residual webs 25, 26 remain cut out and guarantee the above-described anchoring of the closing strip 22.

As is evident from Figures 3 and 4, the recesses 23 are made by being punched out at the predetermined points in the flat spread-out blank 10 which, in particular, is severed from a web of material. The closing strip 22 is then folded round against the inner face or against the inner coating 12 of the blank 10. Thereupon, the pouch part 13 is formed by means of the side seams 17 and 18. The cut tobacco 14 can now be introduced and the closing seam 20 then made.

#### CLAIMS

1. Pouch produced from a flexible sheet blank, especially a roll-up pouch for receiving cut tobacco, with a pouch part which comprises a front wall and a rear wall and which is closed by means of a pull-open closing seam made by a seal (peel-seal seam), wherein an end seal which cannot be pulled open and which is formed as a result of permanent sealing is arranged at the ends of the closing seam.

2. Pouch according to claim 1, wherein as regards a (sheet) blank with an outward coating and an inner coating of differing coordinated sealability and with a closing strip formed by folding round and located in the region of the closing seam, recesses are made at the ends of the closing strip, in such a way that identical coatings, especially of the front wall and rear wall, are joined directly to one another in this region as a result of sealing.

3. Pouch according to claim 2, wherein the re-

cesses are in the form of the area of a part circle and are open towards the free edges.

4. Pouch according to claim 2 or 3, wherein the recesses have a smaller width than the closing strip and are arranged at a distance from the free edge of the latter, so that residual webs of the closing strip which are sealable between the front wall and rear wall are obtained.

5. Pouch according to claim 1 and one or more of the further claims, wherein the end seal at the ends of the closing seam and the sealing of the front wall and rear wall in the region of the recesses are formed by side seams for joining the front wall and rear wall of the pouch part.

6. Pouch produced from a flexible sheet blank substantially as hereinbefore described with reference to the accompanying drawings.

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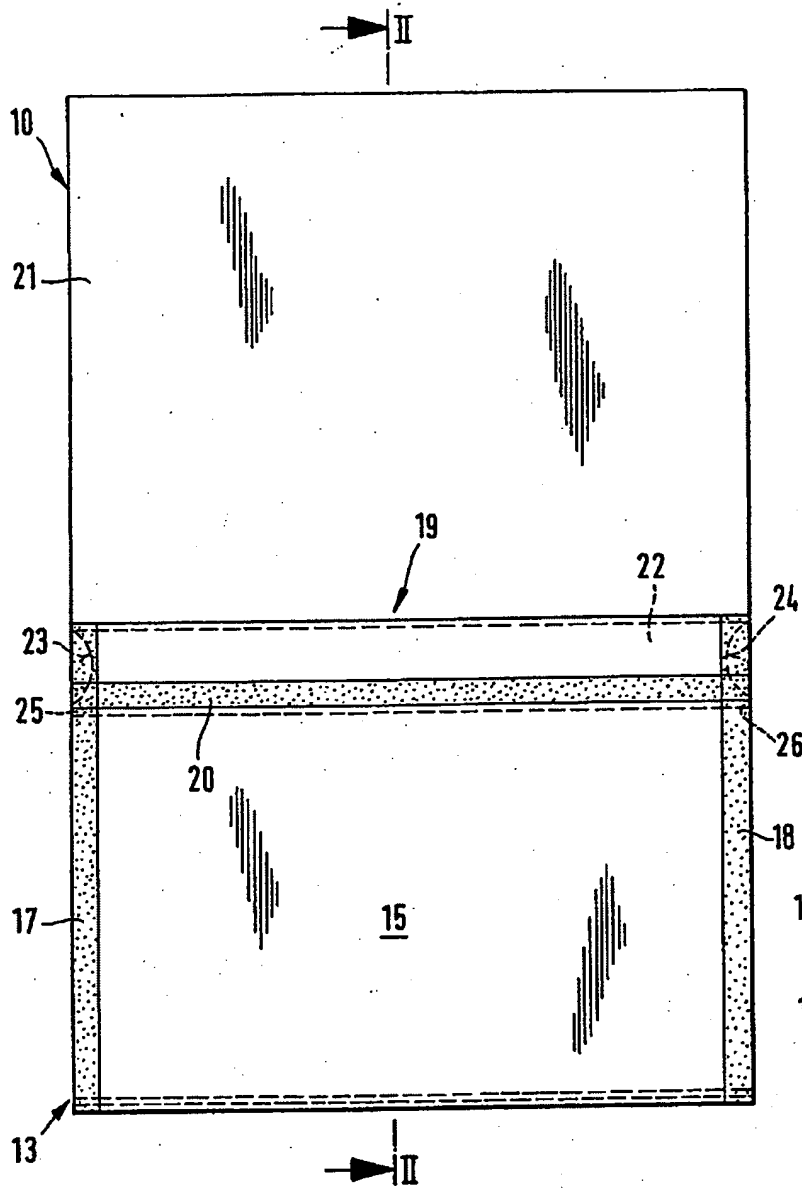


Fig. 1

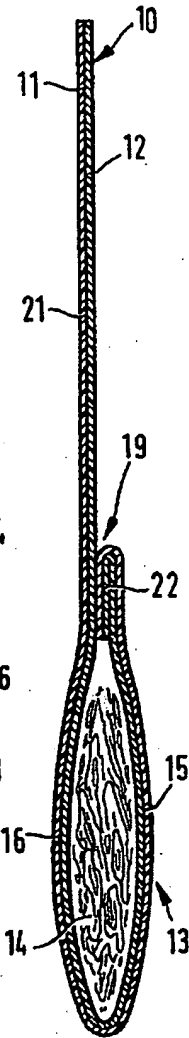


Fig. 2

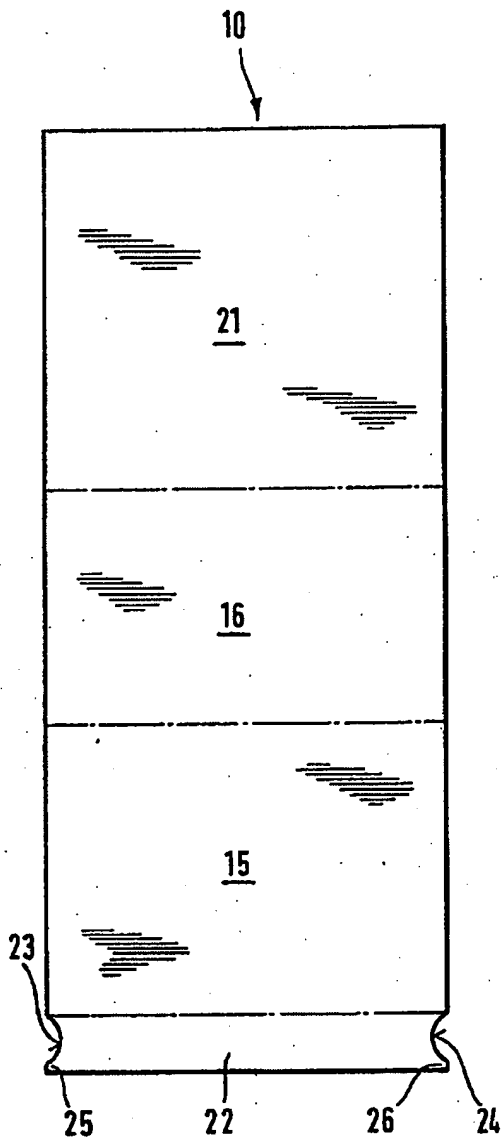


Fig. 3

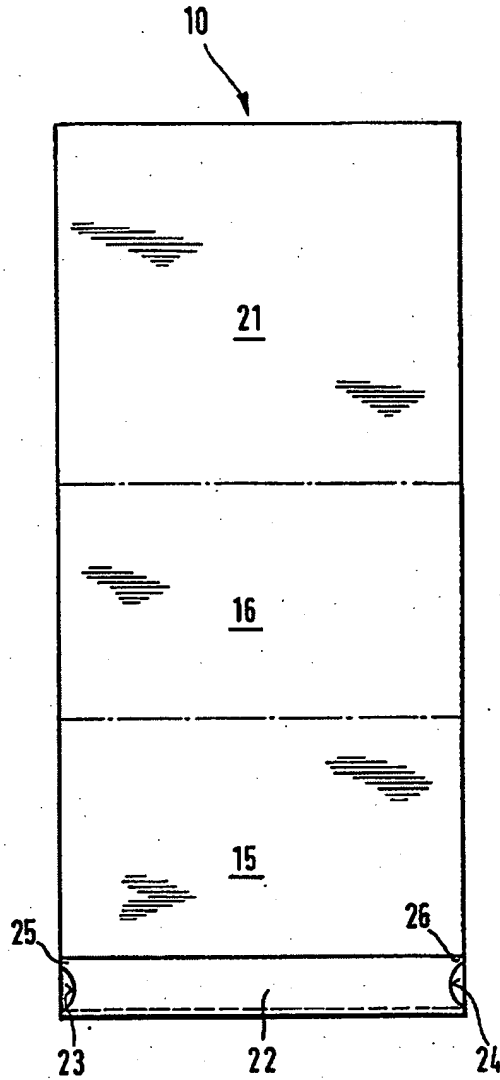


Fig. 4